

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Original) A process for the preparation of a dried particulate blood product the particles whereof comprise anuclear blood cells in a protective agent, said process comprising:

- obtaining a blood sample from a mammalian subject;
- adding an anticoagulant to said sample;
- concentrating the cells of said sample;
- recovering a concentrate containing anuclear blood cells from said sample;
- impregnating with said concentrate a particulate comprising a macromolecular protective material;
- drying the impregnated particulate at a temperature in the range of -20 to +120°C; and, optionally,
- packaging the dried particulate in sealed containers.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said blood sample is obtained from a human subject.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said macromolecular protective material contains a water-soluble macromolecular substance having a molecular weight above 2000 D.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said macromolecular protective material contains macromolecules

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
NS Entry of PCT/GB2003/005670

naturally occurring in the blood of the species from which the blood derives.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said macromolecular protective material has a ~~haemoglobin~~ hemoglobin content of less ~~that~~ than 1% wt relative to the ~~haemoglobin~~ hemoglobin content of erythrocytes.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the drying step is effected at a temperature between 1 and 10°C.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the drying step involves fluidized bed drying.

Claim 8. (Original) A dried particulate blood product the particles whereof comprising anuclear blood cells in a macromolecular protective material.

Claim 9. (Original) A dried, reconstitutable, biological product comprising nucleus-containing eukaryotic cells in a macromolecular protective material.

Claim 10. (Original) A process for preparation of a dried, reconstitutable biological product which process comprises impregnating a particulate macromolecular protective material with a liquid containing nucleus containing eukaryotic cells and drying the impregnated particulate.

Claim 11. (Original) A method of production of a transfusion liquid, said method comprising dispersing a dried particulate blood product according to claim 8 or claim 9 in a physiologically tolerable sterile aqueous solution and optionally treating the resulting dispersion to reduce the content therein of the protective material.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
NS Entry of PCT/GB2003/005670

Claim 12. (Original) A kit comprising a first container containing a dried particulate blood product according to claim 8 or claim 9, and a second container containing a sterile physiologically tolerable aqueous reconstitution solution.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) A kit as claimed in claim 12, wherein said first container is disposed in said second container and is openable whereby to release its contents into said solution.